

Mrs. Northrop had done a certain amount of collecting and that her specimens had been presented to the New York Botanical Garden. A systematic search through the collections at New York revealed the fact that about one-fifth of the species reported in the "List of Nashawena Plants" are substantiated by herbarium sheets.¹ Fortunately, among this twenty per cent is an excellent specimen of *T. discolor* collected in the summer of 1901. The label bears no information as to the exact location on Nashawena where the plant was found, but the island is not a large one and it is to be expected that future investigations will lead to a discovery of the haunts of this rare orchid.

Here then, is a second station in Dukes County, Massachusetts for a species which may now definitely be restored to the flora of New England. And it is not totally without interest that both of these localities should be from areas which display an affinity with a continental flora rather than with that transplanted element of the flora of the southern coastal plain so characteristic of nearby portions of Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket Counties.

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DEAM'S GRASSES OF INDIANA.²—No one else is anywhere nearly so well qualified as Mr. Deam to write of the flora of Indiana; it is therefore in the natural course of things (though none the less praiseworthy for that) that his latest publication, a manual of the grasses of the state, is admirably comprehensive and thorough. From the introductory account of the morphology of the grass plant, by Dr. Paul Weatherwax, to the illustrated glossary at the end, no feature is lacking which such a work should have. There are carefully worked out keys; nearly every species has an original, detailed description drawn up from Indiana material; and at least a spikelet of every one is illustrated. The drawings—with one exception, by Dr. Weatherwax—are painstaking and essentially accurate throughout. Perhaps, in some cases, they are a bit conventionalized in the rendering of certain details—witness the difference in the pubescence of the spikelet as drawn in plate 75 and in Mrs. Chase's exquisitely finished little figure of the same thing on the following page.³

¹ A detailed account of the results of this research is incorporated in an extended survey of the Flora of the Elizabeth Islands soon to appear in RHODORA.

² Deam, Charles C. Grasses of Indiana. Indiana Dept. of Conservation, Pub. 82. 256 pp., 86 pls., numerous maps and text figures. Indianapolis, Oct. 15, 1929.

³ One is conscious of a wistful desire that the difference in shape shown in the plates between the first glume of *Panicum huachucae* and *P. tennesseense* and of other members of their group were constant; but sad experience (as well as Hitchcock & Chase's lack of emphasis on this character) teaches that it is not.

The nomenclature follows the International Rules, with one or two of the small slips which none of us wholly escape in this technical matter. Under the Rules, *Muhlenbergia umbrosa* Scribn. and *Panicum stipitatum* Nash are superfluous names; *M. sylvatica* Torr. and *P. elongatum* Pursh may be, and should be, used.¹ Modest as always, Mr. Deam makes no attempt at taxonomic originality; here, he follows for the most part Hitchcock and Chase, but is prompt in taking into account all work bearing on his region. Originality in plenty, and of the best kind, may be found elsewhere—for instance in the full notes on the habitat, associates, etc. of each species, drawn from Mr. Deam's rich knowledge of the local flora and his years of experience in the field. These are of more than local interest; so, too, is the one new species described, *Panicum Deamii* Hitchc. & Chase. A near relative of the Atlantic *P. Commonsianum*, it adds one more to the list of plants of coastal plain affinity found about the southern end of Lake Michigan. And the maps of distribution within Indiana which accompany each species call for more than passing mention. They are made large enough to admit of placing in each county, not the usual dots or crosses, but one or more letters, indicating not only occurrence, but also the herbaria where the specimens are to be found on which the records for the county are based. It is hard to imagine a more exact, succinct, and comprehensive method of conveying phytogeographical information.

Altogether, "Grasses of Indiana" is a model of its kind; it should take its place on the little shelf of classical local floras to which one turns with confidence for exact data as to the regions covered.—C. A. WEATHERBY.

¹ *Agrostis sylvatica* Torr. is validated (or, as Mr. Sprague would say, legitimized) by transfer to *Muhlenbergia*; for *Panicum elongatum* see *Rhodora* xxxi. 108 (1929).

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